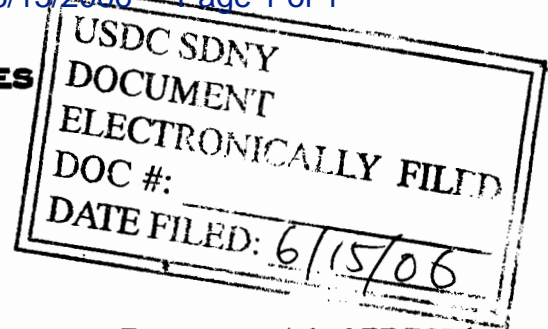


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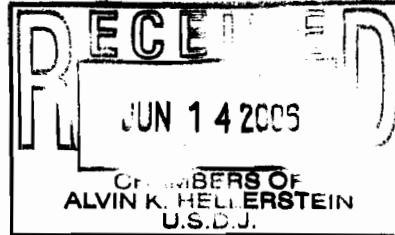
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G. MATTHEW PIRNER

NATALIA BERRINO

VIA FACSIMILE

June 14, 2006

Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
United States District Judge
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007

*Permission is granted.
6-14-06
[Signature]*

Re: United States v. Nelly Agudelo, 5 Cr. 708 (AKH)

Dear Judge Hellerstein:

I am the attorney for Nelly Agudelo, a defendant in the above-captioned matter. I write this letter to request the Court's permission to absent myself from the conference currently scheduled for June 19, 2006. The reason for this request is that I actually have to be in Colombia, working in reference to both this case and also the United States v. Julia Agudelo, 02 Cr. 1188, pending in the Eastern District of New York.

I am aware that this matter is on for a status conference. I have spoken to my co-counsel, Lee Ginsberg, Esq. who has graciously agreed to stand up on my behalf as well as to my client who has no objection to Mr. Ginsberg representing her for this appearance. I have informed AUSA Bansal of my request to absent myself. In so far as the case is concerned please be advised that absentsing will not affect the status of the case because I have been in constant communication with Mr. Bansal in reference to resolving this matter and we are working towards a resolution of this case.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Court permit me to absent myself from this next appearance. Thank you.

Respectfully,

J. Roberto Cardenas

JRC/gmp